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surface thereof defining a second segment, under the first free end and the pivot pin, and out of the front of the yoke portion.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependency and to improve their format. None of these amendments is believed to involve any new matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered, that the application as so amended receive an examination on the merits, and that the claims as now presented receive an early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

JDL 44,100
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A wrench having a head portion [(10,110)] adapted to engage and apply torque to a workpiece [(42)], said head portion [(10,110)] including a flexible ring portion [(14,114)] having an inner working surface for engaging the workpiece [(42)], such that, when a torque is applied to said head [(10,110)] in a predetermined direction [(48,148)], said ring portion closes around said workpiece [(42)].

2. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 1 having a head portion [(10)]- adapted to engage and apply torque to a workpiece [(42)], said head portion [(10)] including a ring member [(14)] adapted to substantially surround a peripheral surface of a workpiece [(42)] and having a first, fixed end [(16)] and a second, free end [(18)] such that, when an inner surface of said ring member [(14)] engages a workpiece [(42)] and a torque is applied to said head portion [(10)] in a predetermined direction [(48)], said ring member [(14)] closes around said workpiece [(42)].

3. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said wrench further includes a first cam surface [(28)] disposed adjacent an outer surface [(30)] of a free end portion of said ring [(14)] such that, when said inner surface of said ring member [(14)] engages said workpiece [(42)] and said torque is applied to said head portion [(10)] in said predetermined direction [(48)], said first cam surface presses against said outer surface [(30)] of said free end portion of said ring [(14)].

4. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said first cam surface [(28)] is generally convex.

5. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 3 [or Claim 4], wherein said outer surface [(30)] of said free end portion is generally concave.

6. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in [any one of Claims 3 to 5] Claim 3, wherein said first cam surface [(28)] is formed integrally with said wrench.

7. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in [any one of Claims 3 to 5] Claim 3, wherein said first cam surface [(28)] is provided by an insert [(32)].

8. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in [any any one of Claims 2 to 7] Claim 2, wherein said ring member [(14)] comprises a plurality of segments [(20a-f)].

9. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 8, wherein said segments [(20a-f)] define a generally polygonal inner surface of said ring member [(14)].

10. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 8 [or Claim 9], wherein each of said segments [(20a-f)] has an inner surface which is generally convex in the circumferential direction of said ring member [(14)].

11. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in [any one of Claims 8 to 10] Claim 8, wherein at least some of said segments [(20a-f)] are formed integrally with one another and said ring member [(14)] is adapted to deform resiliently at junctions [(24a-e)] between adjacent, integrally formed segments.

12. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said junctions [(24a-e)] between adjacent, integrally formed rings have a reduced thickness in the radial direction as compared with the remainder of said segments [(20af)].

13. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 12, wherein said junctions [(24a-e)] comprise portions of the inner surface of said ring member which are generally concave in the circumferential direction of said ring member [(14)].

14. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in [any one of Claims 2 to 13] Claim 2, wherein the inner surface of said ring member is corrugated.

15. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in [any one of Claims 2 to 14] Claim 2, wherein said head portion [(10)] includes means for limiting movement of said free end [(18)] of said ring member [(14)] relative to said fixed end [(16)] thereof in said predetermined direction [(48)].

16. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in [any one of Claims 2 to 15] Claim 2, wherein said head portion [(10)] includes means for limiting movement of said free end [(18)] of said ring member [(14)] relative to said fixed end [(16)] thereof in a direction [(50)] opposite to said predetermined direction [(48)].

17. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in [any one of Claims 2 to 16] Claim 2, wherein said head portion [(10)] includes hinge means [(60,62,64,68,72,74)] whereby at least a portion of said ring member [(14)] may be pivoted in the plane of said ring member [(14)] relative to the remainder of said head portion [(10)].

18. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 17, wherein said ring member comprises a plurality of segments [(20a-f)] and wherein said hinge means [(60,62,64,68,72,74)] is located between at least one pair of adjacent segments [(20a-f)].

19. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 16 [or Claim 17], including resilient bias means [(80)] associated with said hinge means [(60,62,64,68,72,74)] and adapted to bias said ring member towards a closed position.

20. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said ring portion [(114)] is pivotably connected to a yoke portion [(204)] of said head [(110)] and comprises a plurality of segments [(120a-f)] interconnected by an elongate flexible

member [(202)] having first and second free ends [(202a, b)] secured to said yoke portion [(204)] such that pivoting movement of said ring [(114)] relative to said yoke [(204)] in a predetermined direction [(148)] causes a length of said elongate flexible member [(202)] passing around said ring [(114)] to be shortened and the ring [(114)] to close.

21. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in claim 20, wherein first and second segments [(120a, b)] of said ring [(114)] are formed integrally with one another as part of a pivot member [(200)] pivotably mounted in said yoke [(204)] by means of a pivot pin [(206)] and the remainder of said segments [(120c-f)] are formed as discrete members, said flexible elongate member being threaded through said remainder of said segments [(120c-f)] and the free ends [(202a, b)] thereof passing around an outer surface [(214)] of said pivot member and around said pivot pin [(206)].

22. (Amended) A wrench as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the first free end [(202a)] of the flexible elongate member [(202)] extends from one of said discrete segments [(120f)], passes around one part of said outer surface [(214)] of said pivot member [(200)] opposite an inner surface thereof defining a first segment [(120a)], over the top of, around and under the pivot pin [(206)], and out of the front of the yoke portion [(204)], and wherein the second free end [(202b)] of the elongate flexible member [(202)] extends from another of said discrete segments [(120c)], passes around a second part of said outer surface [(214)] of the pivot member [(200)] opposite an inner surface thereof defining a second segment [(120b)], under the first free end [(202a)] and the pivot pin [(206)], and out of the front of the yoke portion [(204)].